

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 05439 011350Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 SCS-06 SS-15 /035 W
-----123629 011351Z /64

R 011232Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8215

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 5439

FOR AF/W

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OGEN CASC NI
SUBJECT: RAY BAKER

REF: (A) LAGOS 5111, (B) STATE 108116

1. FABUNMI CAME TO MY HOUSE APRIL 30 TO REPORT THAT THE ADDITIONAL NOTE AND THE PERSONAL LETTER REGARDING BAKER'S CASE (REFTEL A) HAD BEEN HELPFUL AND THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED THEM WITH THE CABINET OFFICE.
2. FABUNMI ALSO SAID HE HAD HEARD FROM THE NIGERIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON OF THE DISCUSSION WITH AMBASSADOR JOLAOSO LAST WEEK AND THAT REFERENCE HAD BEEN MADE IN THAT REPORT TO THE LETTER BAKER HAD ADDRESSED TO THE HEAD OF STATE LAST FALL. FABUNMI SAID HE HAD NOT PREVIOUSLY HEARD OF THE LETTER AND WAS NOW INVESTIGATING TO DETERMINE WHAT ACTION HAD BEEN TAKEN REGARDING THE LETTER AT THAT TIME. HE ASSURED ME THAT THIS INVESTIGATION WOULD NOT HOLD UP THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE CASE BEING CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO HIS REPRESENTATIONS TO THE CABINET OFFICE.
3. I MENTIONED TO FABUNMI THAT AMBASSADOR EASUM HAD REAISED THE CASE WITH GARBA ON APRIL 26 IN NEW YORK AND EXPLAINED TO HIM HOW THE ISSUE HAD BEEN PASSED TO
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GARBA BY OBASANJO DURING THE LATTER'S VISIT TO THE US LAST FALL. FABUNMI COMMENTED THAT GARBA CUSTOMARILY LEFT HIM MUCH DISCRETION TO SETTLE CASES SIMILAR TO BAKER'S AND HE EXPRESSED REGRET THAT HE HAD NOT BEEN INFORMED OF THE CASE LAST FALL.

4. COMMENT: I THINK FABUNMI WOULD LIKE TO SETTLE THIS

CASE AND DEMONSTRATE TO US AS A MATTER OF PRIDE THAT HE
COULD DO SO DESPITE THE FAILURE OF OUR EARLIER EFFORTS
TO RESOLVE THE MATTER. I AM SENDING HIM A COPY OF THE
MEMORANDUM OF RECORD GIVEN TO AMBASSADOR JOLAOSO ON
APRIL 24 AND A COPY OF BAKER'S LETTER TO THE HEAD OF STATE
DATED OCTOBER 5, 1977.
WYMAN

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NNN

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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